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OFFICIAL

Docket No.: 297912003900  
(PATENT)

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Dated: January 29, 2004

Signature: 

(Linda J. Burleigh)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Scott PLETZER, et al.

Application No.: 09/826,267

Art Unit: 1732

Filed: April 4, 2001

Examiner: M. Poe

For: APPARATUS AND TECHNIQUE FOR  
UNIFORM LOADING OF ENDOLUMINAL  
PROSTHESES

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

## INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This is in response to the non-final Office Action dated November 5, 2003, for which a response is due on February 5, 2004. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.

OC-270878